Urja Grtm projects in Andhra Pradesh

881. SHRI TALARI MANOHAR: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there was any proposal to provide financial assistance through Department of Non-Conventional Energy Sources to take up Urja Gram Projects in 42 villages in Andhra Pradesh at the rate of one village per parliamentary constituency, during the financial year 1986-87; and

(b) if so, what are the details of the proposal and the amount sanctioned; and if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) and (b) The Department of Non-conventional Energy Sources has launched a programme in 1986-87 for establishing one Urja Gram project in each Parliamentary constituency of the country. As a first step, funds have been sanctioned to identify the most suitable village after carrying out energy surveys in each constitutency. Accordingly, an amount of Rs. 2.60 lakhs has also been sanctioned to the Nodal agency for Andhra Pradesh which is now engaged with this work. Urja Gram Projects will be taken up for implementation after formulation of the proposals, depending on the availability of funds for this programme.

Technology for utilising wind energy

882. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to refer to answer to the Unstarred Question 1375 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 9th March, 1987 and state:

(a) whether any final decision has since been taken for the induction/adoption of technology for the utilization of wind energy; and

(b) if so, what are the details of the decision?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) and (b) Steps have been taken for indigenous development and manufacture of a variety of wind energy equipment. In this connection, induction/adoption of technology for certain inputs the indigenous manufacture of wind ey equipment could be considered on it depending on the best source avai , in conformity with the overall gove ent policies.

Uniform power tariff

883. SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY: Will the inister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that Government had advanced a oposal to all the States for having unif n power taff;

(b) if so, what are t tails of the proposals;

(c) whether the proposal as made any study about the serious gap betwee the generation cost of thermal nd hydeo-wers;

(d) whether this gap has sulted n failure in bringing unifomity in p tariff; and

(e) what has been the reaction of C ernment in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN T DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN TI MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMA SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) No, Sir. U der the Electricity (Supply) Act, 1948, t power to fix tariff for supply of electrici to various categories of consumers vests i State Electricity Board/Electricity Depart ments.

(b) to (e) Do not aise.

Karnataka power-projects

884. SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Karnataka Government have submitted a proposal to the Central Government regarding the scheme of installing two Power Projects with the help of non-Resident Indians' investment;

(b) what are the details of these two projects;

(c) whether the Central Government have assured the Karnatka Government that the proposed power projects would be cleared;

(d) if so, whether the said assurance has been fulfilled; and

(e) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (e) Do not aise.

Import of oil

885. PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the increase in the quantity of oil which is expected to be imported during the year 1987-88 and the total foreign exchange burden on that account; and

(b) the measures being taken by Government to reduce the quantity of imported oil?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) It is expected that the quantity of crude oil to be imported during current year would be about two million tonnes higher than that in the previous year. It is difficult to estimate exactly the total foreign exchange involved but it is likely to be higher as the general level of price is higher.

(b) The important steps, among others, taken to reduce imports are to intensify exploration efforts, curb consumption of POL, promote conservation through various measures etc.

Plans intensify oil search in Rajasthan

886. SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK:
SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR SAHU:
SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to chalk out any fresh plan to intensify oil search in the desert of Rajasthan;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) by when the work to intensify the oil and natural gas search will commence; and

(d) what are the details of the financial allocations for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) to (d) Exploration for hydocarbons in Rajasthan is being carried out as per Seventh Plan Programmes. During the Seventh Plan period, ONGC propose to conduct about 8685 SLK of seismic survey and to drill 24 wells. The outlay provided for this is about Rs. 99 crores. Oil India Limited has also drawn up a programme for drilling 6 wells at a cost of about Rs. 51 crores.

Oil exploration in Andhra Pradesh

887. SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to intensify oil exploration activity in the State of Andhra Pradesh during the Seventh Five Year Plan period; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) and (b) During the Seventh Plan period, ONGC propose to step up